

MAKING WAVES

A MARITIME NEWS BRIEF COVERING:

- 1. Maritime Security**
- 2. Maritime Forces**
- 3. Shipping, Ports, and Ocean Economy**
- 4. Marine Environment**
- 5. Geopolitics**

EDITED BY:

**Ms Rashmi Yadav
Research Associate
rsf1.nmf@gmail.com**

CONTENTS

MARITIME SECURITY	2-3
India, Singapore to Widen Co-Op in Defence Tech and Maritime Security	2
Dryad Global: Expanding Risks in The Red Sea and Black Sea	2
INS <i>Aravali</i> Commissioned as Navy's New Nerve Centre in Gurugram	2
India-Norway Hold Inaugural Maritime Security, Disarmament Dialogue in Oslo	3
India And Fiji Discuss Maritime Security Collaboration as INS <i>Kadmatt</i> Makes Port	3
MARITIME FORCES	3-5
India, Sri Lanka Boost Naval Interoperability During Slinex-2025	3
Indian Navy Ships Conclude Jeddah Visit with Joint Naval Exercise	4
Navy Training Squadron's 4-Day Seychelles Visit to Boost Maritime Ties Concludes	4
Japan, the Philippines and the US conduct Maritime Cooperative Activity	4
India Participates in 4th Coast Guard Global Summit in Rome; Bids to Host Next Edition In 2027	5
SHIPPING, PORTS, AND OCEAN ECONOMY	5-6
Kamarajar Port Pushes for Usage of Shore Power Supply Facility to Decrease Emissions	5
India Sees No Drop in Overall Cargo Shipments Despite US Tariffs: Sonowal	5
Govt Plans to Blacklist 86 Foreign Ships Involved in Abandonment Of Indian Seafarers	6
Kandla Becomes First Major Indian Port to Expand Operations Beyond Gujarat	6
India's Shipbuilding Roadmap Towards Maritime <i>Amrit Kaal</i> Vision 2047 Unveiled at CII Shipbuilding National Summit 2025	6
MARINE ENVIRONMENT	7-8
For the First Time in 40 Years, Panama's Deep Ocean Currents Fail to Rise	7
The Plastics Treaty: Steps Forward, Agreement Deferred	7
Tamil Nadu Government Launches Marine Resources Foundation to Protect and Restore Marine Biodiversity	7
Indian Coast Guard Chief Attends Global Summit Inaugurated by PMs of Italy, Japan	8
Blue Button Jellies on India's Coasts: Climate Change Signals from the Sea	8
GEOPOLITICS	8-9
"India Is Key Partner in the Indo-Pacific," says German FM	8
Governing The Melting Arctic: Geopolitical Tensions and Legal Gaps	9
How Tariffs and Geopolitics Are Reshaping Global Trade?	9
The 50% Tariff Blow: Geopolitics Expert on India's Ties With US, Pivot to China	9
Focus on Trade, Counterterrorism & Indo-Pacific as India-EU Ramp Up Ties; High-Level Visits Lined Up to Boost FTA Talks	9

MARITIME SECURITY

INDIA, SINGAPORE TO WIDEN CO-OP IN DEFENCE TECH AND MARITIME SECURITY

India and Singapore have agreed to deepen their defence technology and maritime security cooperation in 2025, focusing on emerging areas like quantum computing, AI, automation, and unmanned vessels. They will strengthen Maritime Domain Awareness through information fusion centres and liaison officers. Singapore appreciated India's interest in patrolling the Malacca Straits alongside regional countries to balance the Chinese presence. The two nations also committed to joint exercises, counter-terrorism efforts, and cooperation under bilateral and multilateral platforms. This strategic partnership is a key pillar of India's Act East Policy, enhancing regional security and technology collaboration.

Source: [Here](#), 05 September 2025

DRYAD GLOBAL: EXPANDING RISKS IN THE RED SEA AND BLACK SEA

Maritime security risks in the Red Sea and Black Sea have escalated sharply in 2025, with Houthi and Russian-backed attacks expanding in scope and sophistication. Over 170 vessels have been targeted in the Red Sea since late 2023, including the July 2025 sinkings of *Magic Seas* and *Eternity C*. Threats now extend north toward Yanbu, involving missiles, drones, and explosive boats, doubling regional shipping costs. In the Black Sea, drone and mine warfare linked to the Ukraine-Russia conflict continues to endanger commercial traffic. Analysts warn of compounding maritime instability threatening global trade resilience.

Source: [Here](#), 05 September 2025

INS *ARAVALI* COMMISSIONED AS NAVY'S NEW NERVE CENTRE IN GURUGRAM

INS *Aravali* was commissioned by the Indian Navy in Gurugram on September 12, 2025, in the presence of Chief of Naval Staff Admiral Dinesh K Tripathi. Named after the resilient *Aravali* Range, it enhances India's Command, Control, Communications, and Maritime Domain Awareness (MDA) framework. The base supports key centres such as the Information Management and Analysis Centre (IMAC) and Information Fusion Centre-Indian Ocean Region (IFC-IOR). Guided by the motto 'Maritime Security through Collaboration,' it embodies technological advancement and inter-agency cooperation, strengthening India's maritime security and role in the Indian Ocean Region.

Source: [Here](#), 12 September 2025

INDIA-NORWAY HOLD INAUGURAL MARITIME SECURITY, DISARMAMENT DIALOGUE IN OSLO

India and Norway held their inaugural Maritime Security, Disarmament, and Non-Proliferation Dialogue on September 11, 2025, in Oslo. The discussions focused on sustaining a secure maritime environment aligned with international law, including UNCLOS, and promoting economic growth, peace, and progress in maritime matters. Both countries reviewed ongoing maritime cooperation and agreed to enhance efforts against illicit maritime activities and protect critical maritime infrastructure. They also discussed developments in disarmament and non-proliferation and multilateral cooperation. The next round of dialogue will be held in New Delhi, strengthening their strategic partnership.

Source: [Here](#), 12 September 2025

INDIA AND FIJI DISCUSS MARITIME SECURITY COLLABORATION AS INS *KADMATT* MAKES PORT

INS *Kadmatt*, an indigenously built Anti-Submarine Warfare Corvette of the Indian Navy, arrived in Suva, Fiji, on September 15, 2025, for a three-day goodwill visit as part of its three-month deployment. The visit highlights strong India-Fiji maritime cooperation and deep-rooted cultural ties. During the visit, INS *Kadmatt* hosted senior Fiji Navy officials for professional exchanges and explored collaboration in maritime security, humanitarian assistance, and capacity development. The ship also conducted community outreach, sporting events, and cultural activities, strengthening bilateral relations and India's strategic presence in the Indo-Pacific under the *MAHASAGAR* vision.

Source: [Here](#), 15 September 2025

MARITIME FORCES

INDIA, SRI LANKA BOOST NAVAL INTEROPERABILITY DURING SLINEX-2025

The 12th edition of the India-Sri Lanka naval exercise, SLINEX-2025, was conducted in Colombo from August 14 to 18, 2025. The exercise included a harbour phase with professional exchanges, cultural events, and subject matter expert interactions, followed by a sea phase featuring multi-dimensional drills such as gunnery exercises, visit-board-search-seizure operations, and helicopter manoeuvres. Indian Naval ships INS *Rana* and INS *Jyoti* participated alongside Sri Lankan vessels SLNS *Gajabahu* and SLNS *Vijayabahu*. The exercise enhanced interoperability, mutual understanding, and maritime cooperation under India's *MAHASAGAR* policy, strengthening bilateral naval ties and regional security.

Source: [Here](#), 01 September 2025

INDIAN NAVY SHIPS CONCLUDE JEDDAH VISIT WITH JOINT NAVAL EXERCISE

Indian Naval warships INS *Tamal* and INS *Surat* concluded their port call at Jeddah, Saudi Arabia, on August 30, 2025. The visit featured engagements with the Royal Saudi Naval Forces and Saudi Border Guard, including sports fixtures and personnel exchanges. The ships hosted the Indian Ambassador to Saudi Arabia on board, and the commanding officers met senior Saudi naval and border guard officials. Both sides discussed non-traditional security challenges in the Red Sea and Indian Ocean regions, emphasising joint operations and information sharing. The visit underscored India's commitment to strengthening the bilateral defence partnership and naval cooperation.

Source: [Here](#), 01 September 2025

NAVY TRAINING SQUADRON'S 4-DAY SEYCHELLES VISIT TO BOOST MARITIME TIES CONCLUDES

The Indian Navy's First Training Squadron (INS *Tir*, INS *Shardul*, and ICGS *Sarathi*) visited Seychelles from September 1-4, 2025, on a long-range training deployment as part of India's MAHASAGAR vision. The visit included professional exchanges, training, cultural activities, and community outreach. The ships engaged in joint exercises, sports, yoga, and social outreach, and held meetings with Seychelles Defence Forces officials. The deployment highlights India's commitment to strengthening regional maritime cooperation and fostering strong bilateral ties with Seychelles, located at a strategic crossroads in the Indian Ocean.

Source: [Here](#), 05 September 2025

JAPAN, THE PHILIPPINES AND THE US CONDUCT MARITIME COOPERATIVE ACTIVITY

Japan, the Philippines, and the United States conducted a Multilateral Maritime Cooperative Activity (MCA) in the South China Sea from September 11–13, 2025, within the Philippines' Exclusive Economic Zone. The exercise aimed to strengthen interoperability, maritime domain awareness, and collective defence coordination under the shared vision of a Free and Open Indo-Pacific. Participating assets included JS *Osumi* (LST-4001), BRP *Jose Rizal* (FF-150), USS *John Finn* (DDG-113), and a US Navy P-8A *Poseidon* aircraft. The MCA reaffirmed its commitment to freedom of navigation, international law, and regional stability.

Source: [Here](#), 14 September 2025

INDIA PARTICIPATES IN 4TH COAST GUARD GLOBAL SUMMIT IN ROME; BIDS TO HOST NEXT EDITION IN 2027

India actively participated in the 4th Coast Guard Global Summit (CGGS) held in Rome on September 11–12, 2025. The Indian Coast Guard (ICG) delegation, led by Director General

Paramesh Sivamani, presented expertise on fire emergency response at sea. The summit, attended by delegates from 115 countries, focused on maritime safety, pollution response, emergency mechanisms, and countering transnational maritime crimes. India announced its successful bid to host the 5th CGGS in 2027 in Chennai, coinciding with ICG's Golden Jubilee. Hosting the summit reinforces India's maritime leadership and commitment to global maritime governance and security.

Source: [Here](#), 15 September 2025

SHIPPING, PORTS AND OCEAN ECONOMY

KAMARAJAR PORT PUSHES FOR USAGE OF SHORE POWER SUPPLY FACILITY TO DECREASE EMISSIONS

Kamarajar Port, Chennai, inaugurated a ₹20.5 crore Shore Power Supply facility in November 2024 to reduce emissions by allowing vessels to use electricity instead of diesel engines while docked at Coal Berths 1 and 2. This green initiative, part of the Government of India's Harit Sagar Green Port Guidelines, supplies 500 KW, 400V power to vessels, lowering fuel consumption and emissions. Kamarajar Port is actively promoting this facility to shipowners despite retrofitting costs, emphasising long-term operational and environmental benefits. The port is also coordinating with Paradip Port to establish a green corridor for coal transportation.

Source: [Here](#), 01 September 2025

INDIA SEES NO DROP IN OVERALL CARGO SHIPMENTS DESPITE US TARIFFS: SONOWAL

Despite a 50% tariff imposed by the US on Indian goods since August 27, 2025, India has not seen a decline in overall cargo shipments. Union Minister Sarbananda Sonowal highlighted that nearly 90% of India's foreign trade volume travels by sea, and exports to the US grew by 21.64% during April-July 2025. The US remains India's largest trading partner. Efforts continue on bilateral trade negotiations, and India is advancing green hydrogen and methanol bunkering projects at the VOC Port to boost sustainable maritime growth.

Source: [Here](#), 05 September 2025

GOVT PLANS TO BLACKLIST 86 FOREIGN SHIPS INVOLVED IN ABANDONMENT OF INDIAN SEAFARERS

India's Directorate General of Maritime Administration (DGMA) has blacklisted 86 foreign vessels involved in the abandonment, detention, or non-payment of wages to Indian seafarers. Recruitment and Placement Service License (RPSL) holders are barred from deploying Indian crew on these ships. Those already onboard must be signed off at the earliest port and safely repatriated with full wages and welfare entitlements. Non-compliance will lead to license suspension, blacklisting, and legal action. This move reinforces India's commitment to protecting seafarers' rights, aligned with the Maritime Labour Convention, 2006.

Source: [Here](#), 08 September 2025

KANDLA BECOMES FIRST MAJOR INDIAN PORT TO EXPAND OPERATIONS BEYOND GUJARAT

Kandla Port, managed by the Deendayal Port Authority (DPA), is set to expand operations beyond Gujarat for the first time, exploring terminal management opportunities in Maharashtra and Karnataka. This strategic move aims to replicate Kandla's operational efficiency across other coastal states, boost cargo throughput, and decongest existing ports. Kandla handled over 150 million metric tonnes of cargo last year, mainly petroleum, oil, and lubricants. Infrastructure projects include an 18 MMT deep-draft multi-cargo berth and a 2.3 million TEU container terminal, both expected to be operational by September 2027, enhancing India's maritime trade competitiveness.

Source: [Here](#), 13 September 2025

INDIA'S SHIPBUILDING ROADMAP TOWARDS MARITIME AMRIT KAAL VISION 2047 UNVEILED AT CII SHIPBUILDING NATIONAL SUMMIT 2025

India's Shipbuilding Roadmap towards the Maritime Amrit Kaal Vision 2047 was unveiled at the CII Shipbuilding National Summit 2025. The roadmap aims to make India a global shipbuilding hub by 2047 through initiatives like establishing 10 world-class shipyards by 2030, ensuring 50% domestic vessel production by 2035, and powering 30% of the fleet with clean energy by 2047. It emphasises green shipping corridors, coastal industrial clusters, and training 50,000 skilled workers. Goa is positioned as a model state, aiming for a 27% CAGR in shipbuilding revenue, aligning with India's broader goals of sustainability, innovation, and global maritime leadership.

Source: [Here](#), 15 September 2025

MARINE ENVIRONMENT

FOR THE FIRST TIME IN 40 YEARS, PANAMA'S DEEP OCEAN CURRENTS FAIL TO RISE

In early 2025, the Gulf of Panama experienced the first-ever failure in 40 years of its vital upwelling process, which usually brings cold, nutrient-rich deep ocean waters to the surface. This seasonal upwelling, driven by northern trade winds during the dry season, supports highly productive fisheries, protects coral reefs from thermal stress, and cools coastal waters. The failure, linked to significantly weakened trade winds, led to warmer surface waters, reduced marine productivity, and increased vulnerability of coral reefs to bleaching. This unprecedented event highlights the growing impact of climate disruption on tropical marine ecosystems and the urgent need for enhanced ocean-climate monitoring and adaptive conservation strategies.

Source: [Here](#), 03 September 2025

THE PLASTICS TREATY: STEPS FORWARD, AGREEMENT DEFERRED

The global plastics treaty negotiations, aimed at creating the world's first legally binding agreement to tackle plastic pollution throughout its lifecycle, faced a major setback in August 2025 during the INC-5.2 talks in Geneva. Despite efforts since 2022 under the UN Environment Assembly, key issues such as limits on plastic production, chemical controls, and financing mechanisms could not be resolved. The draft treaty faced criticism for lacking enforceable measures and failed to gain consensus, leading to the postponement of further negotiations. The treaty's future remains uncertain amid contrasting national interests and industry pressures.

Source: [Here](#), 08 September 2025

TAMIL NADU GOVERNMENT LAUNCHES MARINE RESOURCES FOUNDATION TO PROTECT AND RESTORE MARINE BIODIVERSITY

The Tamil Nadu government launched the Marine Resources Foundation (TN-MRF) on September 12, 2025, with an initial funding of Rs 50 crore. This groundbreaking initiative aims to conserve and restore marine biodiversity, including endangered species, coral reefs, mangroves, and seagrass ecosystems. The foundation promotes eco-tourism, environmental education, fisheries sustainability, and community empowerment. It will support climate resilience projects like blue-carbon initiatives and coastal resource restoration. Additionally, the Manali Ennore Restoration and Rejuvenation Council (MERRC) was established to restore the eco-sensitive Manali-Ennore region, focusing on pollution control and ecosystem recovery.

Source: [Here](#), 09 September 2025

INDIAN COAST GUARD CHIEF ATTENDS GLOBAL SUMMIT INAUGURATED BY PMS OF ITALY, JAPAN

The Indian Coast Guard (ICG) participated in the 4th Coast Guard Global Summit (CGGS) held in Rome from September 11–12, 2025, co-chaired by Italy and Japan. The summit, attended by 115 nations, focused on maritime safety, environmental protection, and countering transnational crimes. ICG Director General Paramesh Sivamani delivered a lecture on fire emergency response, showcasing India's operational expertise. India announced its bid—later unanimously approved—to host the 5th CGGS in Chennai in 2027, coinciding with ICG's golden jubilee, underscoring India's leadership in advancing global maritime governance and cooperation.

Source: [Here](#), 12 September 2025

BLUE BUTTON JELLIES ON INDIA'S COASTS: CLIMATE CHANGE SIGNALS FROM THE SEA

Blue button jellies (*Porpita porpita*) are increasingly washing ashore along India's coasts, such as Mumbai, Odisha, Tamil Nadu, Andhra Pradesh, and Gujarat. These small, colony-forming marine organisms serve as barometers for ocean health, signalling climate change impacts, including rising sea surface temperatures, altered currents, pollution, and cyclones. Their mass appearances disrupt fisheries and tourism, but also play ecological roles as plankton consumers, food for marine animals, and nutrient cyclers. Scientists link their strandings to warming seas, shifting currents, and nutrient-rich waters, urging better monitoring, public awareness, and research to mitigate ecological and socio-economic impacts.

Source: [Here](#), 15 September 2025

GEOPOLITICS

"INDIA IS KEY PARTNER IN THE INDO-PACIFIC," SAYS GERMAN FM

Germany regards India as a key partner in the Indo-Pacific, emphasising strong political, economic, and cultural ties. German Foreign Minister Johann Wadephul highlighted the expanding strategic partnership with India, focusing on security cooperation, innovation, technology, and skilled labour recruitment. During his 2025 visit, Wadephul underscored India's vital role in shaping global order and preserving the rules-based international system. India's growing economic and technological importance makes it crucial to Germany's Indo-Pacific strategy aimed at addressing geopolitical challenges and strengthening bilateral ties.

Source: [Here](#), 02 September 2025

GOVERNING THE MELTING ARCTIC: GEOPOLITICAL TENSIONS AND LEGAL GAPS

The Arctic is warming over twice as fast as the global average, driving sea ice loss, ecological shifts, and heightened geopolitical tensions. Governance remains fragmented, relying on UNCLOS and the Polar Code, which inadequately address climate and security risks. The Arctic Council faces disruption from Russia-West tensions and excludes military issues. Shipping and resource competition increase environmental hazards and socio-economic challenges for Indigenous communities. Strengthening the Polar Code, evolving the Arctic Council's mandate, and integrating governance frameworks are crucial for sustainable, peaceful management amid the rapidly changing Arctic landscape.

Source: [Here](#), 04 September 2025

HOW TARIFFS AND GEOPOLITICS ARE RESHAPING GLOBAL TRADE?

Global container trade volumes are declining sharply in 2025 due to rising tariffs and intensifying geopolitical tensions. The US imposed 50% tariffs on Indian imports, while Red Sea and Panama Canal disruptions have forced detours, raising freight costs by over 120% since October 2023. September-December forecasts show monthly US container volumes down 6.8% to 20% year-on-year, reaching the lowest levels since 2023. The crisis is driving a shift from globalised trade toward regional blocs and supply chain "friendshoring," signalling a long-term transformation in how goods move worldwide and ending the era of cheap, universally accessible products.

Source: [Here](#), 11 September 2025

THE 50% TARIFF BLOW: GEOPOLITICS EXPERT ON INDIA'S TIES WITH US, PIVOT TO CHINA

The 50% US tariff imposed on Indian exports from August 27, 2025, is the steepest trade restriction India has faced in recent years. It particularly affects labour-intensive sectors like textiles, gems, jewellery, shrimp, and furniture, making Indian goods significantly costlier in the US. This tariff puts 66% of India's exports to the US at risk, possibly reducing exports by 40-45% in FY26 and threatening millions of jobs. The tariff is linked to US objections over India's ongoing purchases of Russian oil. India condemns this move and pursues diplomatic efforts, WTO consultations, and export diversification to mitigate the impact.

Source: [Here](#), 06 September 2025

FOCUS ON TRADE, COUNTERTERRORISM & INDO-PACIFIC AS INDIA-EU RAMP UP TIES; HIGH- LEVEL VISITS LINED UP TO BOOST FTA TALKS

The India-EU strategic partnership is focused on enhancing trade, counterterrorism cooperation, and regional security, especially in the Indo-Pacific. Both sides aim to finalise a free trade agreement (FTA) by year-end to boost economic ties. The recent EU-India Strategic Agenda

prioritises prosperity, sustainability, technology, innovation, and defence collaboration. Cooperation extends to climate action, digital infrastructure, and maritime security, addressing geopolitical challenges. High-level visits, including that of Commerce Minister Piyush Goyal to Brussels, aim to advance FTA talks and deepen bilateral relations, alongside tackling global issues like terrorism and connectivity.

Source: [Here](#), 08 September 2025